

this was the thinking of the delegates. I did not make a point of telling him so. I did report to my Executive Branch Committee that we had talked it over with the Legislative Committee. I know that the subcommittee reported back to the Legislative Committee and told them that we discussed this matter.

I cannot quite understand why it was not really put to the Committee itself, because it is certainly one of the most modern ways of doing budget making today. I completely disagree with Delegate Adkins that there is any danger in it. There is not any danger in it. I do not think the legislature would take the University of Maryland's budget and put it some place else. It is irresponsible talk and does not make any sense.

It is also irresponsible to say something has been satisfactory for a few years and therefore it will be satisfactory in the future. We have to open our minds. I can think of no substantial argument why this should not be given to the General Assembly. We say we are making the General Assembly important. We say we are raising your salary, and lengthening your term of office. We say we want responsible people there.

They certainly have the right to suggest some programs that the people may want that the governor may not see fit to bring forward.

This is what we are actually doing, is letting people, through the legislative branch, have a chance to increase their budget. It will not be a harmful situation because it cannot create a deficit budget.

I think this is very important, that this be given a lot of consideration by everybody here, and it should be voted on favorably.

THE CHAIRMAN: Does any other delegate desire to speak in opposition?

Delegate Willis.

DELEGATE WILLIS: Will the delegate who proposed this yield to several questions?

THE CHAIRMAN: Let me find out if anyone desires to speak in opposition to the amendment first.

Does any delegate desire to speak in opposition?

Delegate Dukes.

DELEGATE DUKES: Mr. Chairman, Judge Sherbow indicated the importance placed on this particular basic philosophy. I think it is fair to say that the Committee certainly placed a similar amount of importance on this. We spent as much time on this as we did on any other matter. Delegate Sollins and Delegate Miller did come before the Committee. They presented to us the proposal which we felt raised substantially the philosophy between an executive budget and legislative budget. The Committee did not debate that particular proposal at great length. Our Committee was satisfied that the only way this thing could properly run from a fiscal point of view was with the executive budget. It has worked well.

I agree with Delegate Boyce that that is not enough to commend it. The fact is very simply we feel, and we did feel in the Taxation and Finance Committee, that the executive is in a better position to view the overall budget. He knows what the various departments are doing. He knows not only what they should be doing, but how well they are capable of doing it.

He plans an overall budget. He presents an overall budget, and at that point, if the legislature is allowed to come in and move one portion of the budget and add another portion, we feel, and almost the entire Committee felt, that we would get the worst log-rolling program we ever had in this State.

We had a good deal of testimony and examples from other states where this type of thing goes on, where a constant battle runs on between the legislature and the governor. There is no question we agree that some degree of log-rolling goes on. It is also somewhat naive to assume that the legislature has nothing to say about what the governor puts in. The legislature certainly has final control over the money it appropriates. They do have a good deal to say about what goes in the executive budget. We feel purely and simply that the overall philosophy is best, that the executive be able to plan his budget because he is going to have to carry it out, and if you allow the legislature to come in piecemeal, pick and choose the portions which they like and the portions which they do not like, we will not have as good a system as we have now.

THE CHAIRMAN: Does any other delegate desire to speak in favor of the amendment?

Delegate Grumbacher.